








FAST AND FREE

Cutting back unnecessary energy use is an easy way to keep your hard-earned money in your pocket. Here are some suggestions you can do at home, at absolutely no cost to you.

Eliminate wasted energy



-  **Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms.** It's the best thing you can do.
-  Unplug electronic devices and chargers when they aren't in use.
-  Unplug that spare refrigerator in the garage if you don't really need it.
-  Turn off your kitchen and bathroom ventilating fans after they've done their job.
-  Close the damper on your fireplace when you aren't using it.
-  Shorten your showers.
-  Use the energy saving features on your home computer, monitor, and printer to put your equipment into sleep mode when you are finished, and turn them off when not in use.



Use large appliances during off peak hours whenever possible

Peak hours are 4:00 – 7:00 in the evening.

Turn down your thermostat—For every degree you lower your heat, you'll save up to 5 percent on heating costs.




If you have a forced air heating system, or a wall heater, set your thermostat to 68 degrees or lower during the day. Set it to 55 degrees, or off, at night or when away from home.

If you have a heat pump, it should only be set back five degrees to prevent unneeded use of backup strip heating.

Reduce your hot water temperature—Set your water heater to the “normal” setting, or 120 degrees, unless the owner's manual for your dishwasher requires a higher setting.

Use your appliances wisely



-  Use a full load when you run your washing machine or your dishwasher – and avoid peak hours.
-  Use the cold water setting on your clothes washer when you can.
-  Be sure to clean your clothes dryer's lint trap after each use.

INEXPENSIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

Every home is different. With a quick trip to your local hardware store, you have even more choices at hand.



Replace your incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR® labeled compact fluorescent light bulbs.

Buy ENERGY STAR® labeled torchieres, table lamps and light fixtures.

Install low flow showerheads—You'll be surprised how much this simple device can cut your hot water costs.

Wrap your hot water tank with jacket insulation—If your water heater is gas, be sure to leave the air intake vent uncovered.

Plug your home's leaks—Weather-strip or caulk leaky doors and windows, and cover your outlets.

Replace furnace filters once a month—Dirty filters restrict airflow and increase energy use. Keep your furnace clean, lubricated and properly adjusted.

GOOD ENERGY SAVING INVESTMENTS

Do you need any new appliances, or are you planning to do some remodeling? Consider these energy efficiency suggestions before you buy.

Install qualified ENERGY STAR® programmable thermostat—Accidentally leaving the heat on while you are out for the day becomes a thing of the past. If you have a heat pump, be sure to select a model designed for your system.

Increase ceiling insulation—Consider increasing your insulation to as much as R-38.

Seal your ducts—Leaking ductwork accounts for 25 percent of the heating costs in an average home, so have your ducts tested and any leaks or restrictions repaired by a qualified licensed contractor.

Replace your kitchen and laundry appliances with ENERGY STAR® labeled models.

When remodeling, select ENERGY STAR® qualified windows. They can reduce your heating costs by up to 15 percent.

ENERGY STAR® labeled furnaces use 20 to 30 percent less energy to heat your home than older models.



Choose ENERGY STAR® Products

For more information contact the California Energy Commission toll free at 1-800-555-7794 or visit our Web Site: www.flexyourpower.ca.gov

COULD WE SAVE WITH ENERGY STAR?

Home Energy Saving Tips